

SD Secretary of State Office
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-2797
sos.edu@state.sd.us

RENEWAL
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

SDCL 13-48

RECEIVED
JUL 30 2018
S.D. SEC. OF STATE

FILING FEE: \$250

FILING FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE AND NOT PRO-RATED
Make Check Payable to SECRETARY OF STATE

1. Name of Applicant (the institutional name under which postsecondary educational programs are provided):

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

2. Applicant's Main Address (Additional sites listed on Attachment A):

<u>800 Algoma Boulevard</u>	<u>Oshkosh</u>	<u>WI</u>	<u>54901-8622</u>
Actual Street Address	City	State	ZIP+4
<hr/>			
<u>www.uwosh.edu</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Mailing Address, if Different from Street Address	City	State	ZIP+4
<hr/>			
Website			

3. Contact Person:

<u>Charles Hill</u>	<u>Interim Associate Vice Chancellor</u>
Name	Title
<u>(920) 424-3190</u>	<u>(920) 424-0247</u>
Telephone Number	Fax Number
<u>hill@uwosh.edu</u>	
Email Address	

4. Applicant's PHYSICAL South Dakota Address:

<u>502 East Warrior Drive</u>	<u>Saint Francis</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>57572</u>
Actual Street Address	City	State	ZIP+4
<u>P.O. Box 379</u>	<u>Saint Francis</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>57572-0379</u>
Mailing Address, if Different from Street Address	City	State	ZIP+4

5. Does the Applicant operate at sites other than the addresses stated above? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If "YES", please be advised that Attachment A to this application must be completed, which shall comprise part of this application, and any subsequent changes to the information provided in Attachment A must be submitted with an amendment application to the Secretary of State Office, within thirty (30) days of such change.

6. Does the Applicant have a parent organization (non-profit, corporate, or otherwise)? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If "YES", please indicate the following:

Parent Organization Name

<u>Street Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>ZIP+4</u>
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7. Is the Applicant an instrumentality of the State of South Dakota under the jurisdiction of the South Dakota Board of Regents?

☐ YES ☒ NO

If "NO", please indicate whether the Applicant is either (*check one of the following*):

☒ An instrumentality of another state (please list the state agency which has jurisdiction over Applicant)

Wisconsin	University of Wisconsin System		
State	Agency		
1220 Linden Drive	Madison	WI	53706-1525
Street Address	City	State	ZIP+4
(608) 262-5862N			
Contact Phone Number	Fax Number		

☐ Legally established to operate in South Dakota as a business entity

South Dakota Business ID

South Dakota Business Name

8. Is the Applicant accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education?

☒ YES - Please include a COPY of your Accreditation.

If "YES", please indicate the following:

Higher Learning Commission

Accrediting Agency			
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500	Chicago	IL	60604-1404
Street Address	City	State	ZIP+4

Effective date of most recent grant of accreditation: December 2007

Term or expiration date of most recent accreditation: 2018 (application for re-accreditation currently under review)

☐ NO

If "NO", Application submission MUST include documentation of an affiliation agreement whose terms make another postsecondary institution, which is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, responsible for awarding academic credit and educational credentials to its students and maintaining transcripts for such students:

9. Has the Applicant ever been ordered to cease operations?

☐ YES

If "YES", please indicate the following:

Jurisdiction

Agency that made the order

The date ordered to cease operations:

Dates the cease operation was in effect:

Is the cease operations order still in effect?

☐ YES

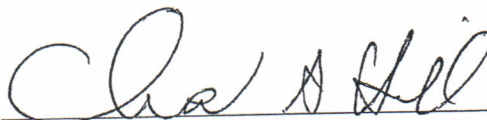
☐ NO

☒ NO

The undersigned acknowledges that Applicant is required to notify the Secretary of State Office within thirty (30) days of a change in information set forth in this Application, including any changes in information set forth in any Attachments or other accompanying information. The undersigned has executed the foregoing document and, under penalties of perjury, certifies that the information provided herein, and in support thereof, is true and correct.

The application must be signed by an authorized officer of the postsecondary educational institution. No person may execute this report knowing it is false in any material respect. Any violation may be subject to a criminal penalty (SDCL 22-39-36).

Dated June 28, 2018



Signature of an authorized person

Charles A. Hill

Printed name

Interim Associate Vice Chancellor

Title

Submit Application to:
South Dakota Secretary of State
500 East Capitol, Suite 204
Pierre, SD 57501

Or email us at:
SOS.EDU@state.sd.us

ATTACHMENT A

ADDITIONAL SITES AT WHICH APPLICANT OPERATES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

(Must be accompanied by an Application for Certificate of Authorization to
Provide Postsecondary Education or Amendment thereof.)

1.	SEE ATTACHED.		
	Name		
	Street Address	City	State ZIP+4
2.			
	Name		
	Street Address	City	State ZIP+4
3.			
	Name		
	Street Address	City	State ZIP+4
4.			
	Name		
	Street Address	City	State ZIP+4
5.			
	Name		
	Street Address	City	State ZIP+4
6.			
	Name		
	Street Address	City	State ZIP+4

(Make additional copies of this Attachment as may be necessary and submit with Application)

ADDITIONAL SITES AT WHICH UW-OSHKOSH OPERATES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Alma Area Schools, 51618 State Road 35, Alma, WI, 54610
Marathon Center, 2323 East Capitol Dr, Suite 100, Appleton, WI, 54911
Appleton North High School, 122 E. College Ave., Suite 1A, Appleton, WI, 54914
Badger Middle School, 727 6th Avenue, West Bend, WI, 53095
Baraboo School District, 423 Linn St, Baraboo, WI, 53913
Beloit School District, Kolak Education Center, Beloit, WI, 53511
Chilton School District, 530 West Main St, Chilton, WI, 53014-1369
Cooperative Education Service Agency 6 [CESA 6], 2300 State Highway 44, Oshkosh, WI, 54904
Cooperative Educational Service Agency 8 [CESA 8], 223 W Park Street, Gillett, WI, 54125
Erin School, 6901 Highway O, Hartford, WI, 53027
Fox Valley Technical College, 1825 N. Bluemound Dr., Appleton, WI, 54912-2277
Fox Valley Technical College/Spanbauer Center, 3601 Oregon Street, Oshkosh, WI, 54901
Green Bay, 433 Main Street, Green Bay, WI, 54301
Hayward Community School District, 15930 W 5th St, Hayward, WI, 54843
Howard-Suamico School District/Bayport HS, 2710 Lineville Rd, Green Bay, WI, 54313
Kettle Moraine School District, 563 A. J. Allen Circle, Wales, WI, 53183
Lakeshore Technical College, 1290 North Avenue, Cleveland, WI, 53015
Middleton High School, 2100 Bristol Street, Middleton, WI, 53562
Neenah High School, 1275 Tullar Road, Neenah, WI, 54956
Northcentral Technical College, 1000 W. Campus Drive, Wausau, WI, 54401
Oaklawn Elementary School, 112 Viola Ave, Oshkosh, WI, 54901
Oconomowoc Area School District, W3660 N7077 Brown Street, Oconomowoc, WI, 53066
Omro High School, 455 Fox Trail, Omro, WI, 54963
Oshkosh Area School District, 215 S Eagle, Oshkosh, WI, 54902
Oshkosh North High School, 100 West Smith Avenue, Oshkosh, WI, 54901
Oshkosh West High School, 375 N Eagle Street, Oshkosh, WI, 54902
Plymouth School District, 125 Highland Ave, Plymouth, WI, 53073
Roosevelt Middle School, 318 East Brewster Street, Appleton, WI, 54911
Seymour School District/Seymour High School, 10 Circle Dr, Seymour, WI, 54165
Southern Door Schools, 2073 County Road DK, Brussels, WI, 54204
Stevens Point Area Senior High, 1201 North Point Dr., Stevens Point, WI, 54481
UW Barron County, 1800 College Drive, Rice Lake, WI, 54868
UW College Baraboo/Sauk County, 1006 Connie Road, Baraboo, WI, 53913
UW College Fond du Lac, 400 University Drive, Fond du Lac, WI, 54935-2950
UW College Fox Valley, 1478 Midway Road, Menasha, WI, 54952
UW College Manitowoc, 705 Viebahn Street, Manitowoc, WI, 54220-6699
UW College Marathon County, 518 South 7th Avenue, Wausau, WI, 54401
UW College Marinette, 750 W. Bay Shore, Marinette, WI, 54143-4253
UW College Rock County, 2909 Kellogg Avenue, Janesville, WI, 53546-5699
UW College Sheboygan, One University Drive, Sheboygan, WI, 53081-4789
UW College Washington County, 400 University Drive, West Bend, WI, 53095
UW Marshfield/Wood County, 2000 W 5th Street, Marshfield, WI, 54449

UW Richland, 1200 US-14, Richland Center, WI, 53581
UW Waukesha, 1500 N University Drive, Waukesha, WI, 53188
Valley View Elementary School, 2200 True Lane, Ashwaubenon, WI, 54304
Wabeno School District, 4346 Mill Ln, Wabeno, WI, 54566
Waupaca High School, E2325 King Road, Waupaca, WI, 54981
Wausau School District, 415 Seymour Street, Wausau, WI, 54402-0359
Wind River Institute, #3 Ethete Road, Fort Washakie, WY, 82514
Wind River Tribal College, 533 Ethete Road, Ethete, WY, 82520
Winneconne Community School District, 233 S Third Ave, Winneconne, WI, 54986



Statement of Accreditation Status

as of July 30, 2018

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

800 Algoma Blvd.
Oshkosh, WI 54901-8622
(920) 424-1234
<http://www.uwosh.edu/>

**Previous names: Wisconsin State College at Oshkosh to Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh (1964) to University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (1972)*

The information on this page describes the accreditation relationship between this institution and the Higher Learning Commission. General information about the Commission and the accreditation process is provided at the end of this document. In addition, links to definitions are provided for many of the terms used.

Accreditation Information

- Current status: Accredited (On Notice)
- Public Disclosure Notice - On Notice
 - Action Letter - On Notice

Accreditation date(s): 01/01/1915 - 12/31/1921; 01/01/1928

Most recent reaffirmation of accreditation: 2006 - 2007

Next reaffirmation of accreditation: 2017 - 2018

Upcoming or In-Progress Reviews

Date	Event	Description
05/01/2018:	Interim Report	Governance
05/21/2018:	Comprehensive Evaluation	
08/01/2018:	Interim Report	Governance
2018 - 2019:	Focused Visit	
11/01/2018:	Interim Report	Governance
02/01/2019:	Interim Report	Governance
05/01/2019:	Interim Report	Governance
08/01/2019:	Interim Report	Governance

Date	Event	Description
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Most Recent History with the Commission

Date	Event	Description
02/28/2018:	Interim Report	Report Accepted- Governance
07/11/2007:	Comprehensive Evaluations - Continued Accreditation	

General Institutional Information

This section provides brief, general information about the institution's organization and scope. The information is self-reported by the institution through the annual Institutional Update to the Commission. Additional information can be found at nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/ or on the institution's web site noted above.

Control: Public

Degree programs (number in each category): Associates (2), Bachelors (67), Masters (19), Doctoral (2)

Certificate programs (number offered): 56

Off-Campus Activities (This listing was last updated: 07/20/2018; the information may not be current.) The institution's accreditation includes courses and programs at:

In-State:	Campuses:	UW Fond du Lac - Fond du Lac, WI; UW Fox Valley - Menasha, WI;
	Additional Locations:	Alma Area Schools - Alma, WI; Fox Valley Technical College - Appleton, WI; Appleton - Appleton, WI; Roosevelt Middle School - Appleton, WI; Appleton North High School - Appleton, WI; Valley View Elementary School - Ashwaubenon, WI; UW College Baraboo/Sauk County - Baraboo, WI; Baraboo School District - Baraboo, WI; Beloit School District - Beloit, WI; Southern Door Schools - Brussels, WI; Chilton School District5 - Chilton, WI; Lakeshore Technical College - Cleveland, WI; Cooperative Educational Service Agency 8 [CESA 8] - Gillett, WI; Green Bay - Green Bay, WI; Howard-Suamico School District/Bayport HS - Green Bay, WI; Erin School - Hartford, WI; Hayward Community School District - Hayward, WI; UW College Rock County - Janesville, WI; UW College Manitowoc - Manitowoc, WI; UW College Marinette - Marinette, WI; UW Marshfield/Wood County - Marshfield, WI; Middleton High School - Middleton, WI; Neenah High School - Neenah, WI; Oconomowoc Area School District - Oconomowoc, WI; Omro High School - Omro, WI; Fox Valley Technical College/Spanbauer Center - Oshkosh, WI; Cooperative Education Service Agency 6 [CESA 6] - Oshkosh, WI; Oshkosh Area School District - Oshkosh, WI; Oaklawn Elementary School - Oshkosh, WI; Oshkosh North High School - Oshkosh, WI; Oshkosh West High School - Oshkosh, WI; Plymouth School District - Plymouth, WI; UW Barron County - Rice Lake, WI; UW Richland - Richland Center, WI; Seymour School District/Seymour High School - Seymour, WI; UW College Sheboygan - Sheboygan, WI; Stevens Point Area Senior High - Stevens Point, WI; Wabeno School District - Wabeno, WI; Kettle Moraine School District - Wales, WI; UW Waukesha - Waukesha, WI; Waupaca High School - Waupaca, WI; Northcentral Technical College - Wausau, WI; UW College Marathon County - Wausau, WI; Wausau School District - Wausau, WI; Wausau School District - Wausau, WI; UW College Washington County - West Bend, WI; Badger Middle School - West Bend, WI; Winneconne Community School District - Winneconne, WI;
Out-of-State:	Campuses:	None.
	Additional Locations:	Wind River Tribal College - Ethete, WY; Wind River Institute - Fort Washakie, WY; St. Francis Indian School - St. Francis, SD;
Out-of-U.S.:	Campuses:	None.
	Additional Locations:	None.

About HLC and Accreditation

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) is a regional accreditation agency that accredits degree-granting colleges and universities that are based in a 19-state region of the United States.

Regional accreditation validates the quality of an institution as a whole and evaluates multiple aspects of an institution, including its academic offerings, governance and administration, mission, finances, and resources. HLC's institutional accreditation includes all degree levels as well as onsite and online offerings. Institutions of higher education in the United States may also seek accreditation through national or specialized accreditation agencies. National accreditation associations, like regional accreditors, accredit the institution as a whole. Specialized accreditation agencies accredit programs, departments or schools within a college or university.

Regional accreditation agencies are recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit degree-granting colleges and universities. There are six regions of the United States which regional agencies oversee. The regional accreditation agencies have similar standards for accrediting colleges and universities.

Institutions that HLC accredits are evaluated against its Criteria for Accreditation, a set of standards that institutions must meet to receive and/or maintain accredited status.

HLC's Criteria for Accreditation reflect a set of guiding values. The accreditation process is based on a system of peer review. Approximately 1,600 educators from institutions of higher education serve as HLC peer reviewers conducting accreditation evaluations for other institutions. Peer reviewers also serve on committees that make up the decision-making bodies of the accreditation process.

Evaluation Process

HLC accreditation assures quality by verifying that an institution (1) meets standards and (2) is engaged in continuous improvement. In addition, all institutions are required to complete an annual filing of the Institutional Update, undergo annual monitoring of financial and non-financial indicators, and adhere to HLC policies and practices on institutional change.

Peer reviewers trained in HLC's standards evaluate institutions' demonstration of whether they meet the Criteria for Accreditation and make recommendations to HLC's decision-making bodies.

Institutional Actions Council (Decision-Making Body)

The Board of Trustees appoints and authorizes members of the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) to conduct reviews and take actions on the majority of accreditation recommendations. IAC members consist of representatives of academic institutions accredited by HLC, as well as members of the public. Detailed information on IAC processes is found in HLC's policies on decision-making.

Public Information

In the interest of being transparent, HLC is committed to providing information to the public regarding accreditation decisions made regarding individual institutions.

Actions that are taken by HLC regarding an institution's accreditation status are disclosed to the public. Since July 2013, in all cases of issuing continued accreditation, placing an institution on or resolving a sanction, or withdrawing accreditation, the Action Letter issued to the institution is made available for viewing and the institution's status in HLC's online directory is updated. Public Disclosure Notices are also issued in cases of sanction and other HLC actions to provide the public insight into the issues regarding that institution.

Complaints Against HLC-Accredited Institutions

HLC has an online resource to communicate complaints about institutions from faculty, students, and other parties. HLC has established a clear distinction between individual grievances and complaints that appear to involve broad institutional practices. Where a complaint does raise issues regarding the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Criteria of Accreditation, HLC forwards the complaint to the institution and requests a formal response.

Complainants with specific claims related to the Americans with Disabilities Act or employment discrimination should seek review of such claims by the

appropriate federal agencies.

© Higher Learning Commission

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604

info@hlcommission.org 800.621.7440 / 312.263.0456



Public Disclosure:
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh status changed
from “Accredited” to “Accredited – On Notice”
Effective: November 2, 2017

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has placed University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on Notice.

HLC took this action because it determined that the University is at risk of not meeting HLC's Criteria for Accreditation related to the institution's mission, institutional integrity, board autonomy, and effective leadership and collaboration. HLC took this action after its review of the background related to the University's pending civil lawsuit against two former employees and related litigation and the implications of this background for the University's oversight of its fiscal and administrative affairs and related matters.

What This Means for Students

Notice is a sanction meaning that an accredited institution is at risk of not meeting one or more of HLC's Criteria for Accreditation. The period of Notice is not more than two years.

While on Notice, the institution remains accredited, and it has the opportunity to remedy the issues that led to the sanction. In most cases, other institutions of higher education will continue to accept the institution's credits in transfer or for admission to a higher degree program. All colleges and universities define their own transfer and admission policies. Students should contact any institution they plan to attend in the future so they are knowledgeable about the admission and transfer policies for that institution.

Noted Criteria for Accreditation

The following Criteria for Accreditation must be addressed by the University:

- Criterion One, Core Component 1.D, “the institution’s mission demonstrates commitment to the public good”
- Criterion Two, Core Component 2.A, “the institution operates with integrity in its financial, academic, personnel, and auxiliary functions; it establishes and follows policies and processes for fair and ethical behavior on the part of its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff”
- Criterion Two, Core Component 2.B, “the institution presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public with regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships”
- Criterion Two, Core Component 2.C, “the governing board of the institution is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of the institution and to assure its integrity”
- Criterion Five, Core Component 5.B, “the institution’s governance and administrative

structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the institution to fulfill its mission”

Next Steps

HLC requires that the University provide quarterly reports beginning February 1, 2018, on the status of pending litigation filed by or against the University of Wisconsin system and/or related entities regarding the issues that are the subject of the Notice sanction, including institutional or system improvements undertaken as a result of these matters.

When the legal issues are resolved, and no later than March 2019, the University will file a report to provide evidence that it has addressed the issues that led to the Notice sanction. No later than November 2019, the HLC Board of Trustees will determine whether the institution has demonstrated improvement and whether Notice can be removed. The University will be scheduled for its regular comprehensive evaluation in spring of 2018.

About the Higher Learning Commission

The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities that have a home base in one of 19 states that stretch from West Virginia to Arizona. HLC is a private, nonprofit accrediting agency. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Questions? Contact info@hlcommission.org or call 312.263.0456.



HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411
312.263.0456 | 800.621.7440
Fax: 312.263.7462 | hlcommission.org

November 8, 2017

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Dr. Andrew Leavitt, Chancellor
University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh
800 Algoma Blvd.
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Dear Chancellor Leavitt:

This letter is formal notification of action taken by the Higher Learning Commission (“HLC” or “the Commission”) Board of Trustees (“the Board”) concerning the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh (“the University” or “the institution”). During its meeting on November 2-3, 2017, the Board continued the accreditation of the University and placed the University on Notice because it is at risk of being out of compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation and the Core Components identified in the Board’s findings as outlined below. This action is effective as of the date the action was taken. In taking this action, the Board considered materials from the recent Advisory Visit, including but not limited to: information submitted by the University, the report from the visiting team, the recommendation of the President of HLC, and the institutional responses to these reports.

The Board required that the University provide quarterly reports beginning February 1, 2018 on the status of the pending litigation filed by or against the University of Wisconsin system or related entities regarding the issues that are the subject of the Notice sanction, including institutional or system improvements undertaken as a result of these matters.

The Board charged the President of the Commission with monitoring the legal case (and findings in the legal case as reported in the quarterly reports) to determine whether to recommend to the Board, at any time during the sanction period, escalating the sanction to Probation or taking other action.

The Board required that the Notice sanction remain in place until such time as the legal cases have been resolved, and the University is able to provide evidence to HLC to fully explicate the facts related to these cases and to report on any remediative actions it has taken to ensure that the issues identified in this action have been fully resolved, or until March 2019, whichever comes first, at which time the University will file a Notice report demonstrating that it has resolved the issues that led to the sanction and that it is

no longer at risk for non-compliance and that the University meets the Criteria for Accreditation, the Core Components and related Assumed Practices;¹

The Board will review documents filed by the University no later than its November 2019 meeting, or at an earlier date to be determined, to ascertain whether the institution has demonstrated that it is no longer at risk for non-compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation and Core Components identified in this action and whether Notice can be removed, or if the University has not demonstrated compliance, whether the Board should place the University on Probation or take other action.

The Board placed the University on the Standard Pathway with its next comprehensive evaluation for Reaffirmation of Accreditation in spring 2018, which provides a one-year extension of its regular decennial review; this comprehensive evaluation will not include a review of the Notice sanction.

The Board based its action on the following findings made with regard to the University:

The University meets Criterion One, Core Component 1.D, “the institution’s mission demonstrates commitment to the public good,” but with concerns because lack of effective oversight by the University’s Board of Trustees appears to have occurred relative to the circumstances that ultimately led to the University’s lawsuit against two former administrators at the University.

The University meets Criterion Two, Core Component 2.A, “the institution operates with integrity in its financial, academic, personnel, and auxiliary functions; it establishes and follows policies and processes for fair and ethical behavior on the part of its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff,” but with concerns because there is insufficient evidence to indicate clearly that, as demonstrated in the circumstances that ultimately led to the University’s lawsuit against two former administrators, the University operated with integrity in its financial relationships and personnel functions.

The University meets Criterion Two, Core Component 2.B, “the institution presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public with regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships,” but with concerns because there is insufficient evidence, as indicated in the circumstances that ultimately led to the University’s lawsuit against two former administrators, to demonstrate clearly that the University’s policies and decisions have been fair, ethical, and guided by integrity, transparency and accountability.

The University meets Criterion Two, Core Component 2.C, “the governing board of the institution is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of the institution and to assure its integrity,” but with concerns because there is insufficient evidence, as indicated in the circumstances that ultimately led to the University’s lawsuit against two former

¹ Note that HLC policy allows for a focused evaluation in conjunction with reviewing the evidence provided by an institution seeking removal of the Notice sanction; depending on the evidence provided by the University and the status of the legal cases HLC staff may call for a focused or other visit in spring of 2019 to review this evidence.

administrators, to demonstrate clearly that the University's Board preserves its autonomy and the best interests of the University of Wisconsin System ("the System") from undue influence from third-party ownership interests or other external parties.

The University meets Criterion Five, Core Component 5.B, "the institution's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the institution to fulfill its mission," but with concerns because, as indicated in the circumstances that ultimately led to the University's lawsuit against two former administrators:

- There is insufficient evidence to demonstrate clearly that the University's Board makes institutional improvement a key priority;
- There is insufficient evidence to demonstrate clearly that the University's Board and leadership participate in essential activities such as a regular assessment program of their effectiveness or a professional development program focused on improving their understanding of the System's operations, State of Wisconsin rules and regulations pertinent to administering the System's campuses, relationship with external but related entities such as foundations, and the expectations of accreditation;
- There is insufficient evidence to demonstrate clearly that the University's current administrative structure strategically supervises campus activities in a way that assures clarity, accountability, transparency, collaboration and trust; and
- There is insufficient evidence to demonstrate clearly that the University's Board has established a well-grounded conflict of interest policy for both the Board itself and for top University leaders and officers.

The University has demonstrated that it meets the Criteria for Accreditation but with concerns and thus is also at risk of non-compliance with the Criteria and should be placed on Notice.

The Board also asked me to remind you of the importance in the future of timely reporting to HLC of issues such as those that arose at the University and that formed the basis of the recent Advisory Visit and of this action.

The Board action resulted in changes to the affiliation of the University. These changes are reflected on the Institutional Status and Requirements Report. Some of the information on that document, such as the dates of the last and next comprehensive evaluation visits, will be posted to the HLC website.

Information about the sanction is provided to members of the public and to other constituents in several ways. Commission Policy INST.G.10.010, Management of Commission Information, anticipates that the Commission will release action letters related to the imposition of a sanction to members of the public. The Commission will do so by posting this action letter on the Commission website. Also, the enclosed Public Disclosure Notice will be posted to the Commission's website not more than 24 hours after you receive this letter.

Commission policy INST.E.10.010, Notice, subsection Disclosure of Notice Actions, requires that an institution inform its constituencies, including Board members, administrators, faculty, staff, students, prospective students, and any other constituencies about the sanction and how to contact the

Commission for further information. The policy also requires that an institution on Notice disclose this status whenever it refers to its Commission accreditation. The Commission will monitor these disclosures to ensure they are accurate and in keeping with Commission policy. I ask that you copy your HLC Staff Liaison, Dr. Jeffrey Rosen, on emails or other communications with campus constituents regarding the sanction as required and provide him with a link to information on your website and samples of related disclosures.

In addition, Commission policy COMM.A.10.010, Commission Public Notices and Statements, requires that the Commission prepare a summary of actions to be sent to appropriate state and federal agencies and accrediting associations, and published on its website. The summary will include the Commission Board action regarding the University. The Commission will also simultaneously inform the U.S. Department of Education of the sanction by copy of this letter.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you and your associates for your cooperation. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact Dr. Rosen.

Sincerely,



Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

Enclosure: Public Disclosure Notice

Cc: Chair of the Board of Trustees, University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh
Charles Hill, Acting Associate Vice Chancellor, University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh
Evaluation team chair
Jeffrey Rosen, Vice President for Accreditation Relations and Director of the Open Pathway,
Higher Learning Commission
Karen Peterson Solinski, Executive Vice President for Legal and Governmental Affairs, Higher
Learning Commission
Herman Bounds, Accreditation and State Liaison, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S.
Department of Education